

New Jersey Department of Human Services

Division of Developmental Disabilities

Overview of Services



**James M. Davy
Commissioner**

Division of Developmental Disabilities

The New Jersey Department of Human Services' Division of Developmental Disabilities (DDD) arranges and coordinates needed services to eligible state residents who have severe developmental disabilities. DDD's mission is to assist people with developmental disabilities to live as independently as possible. DDD serves over 33,000 individuals, about half of whom live at home with their families. Of the remaining individuals served, nearly 7,000 people are in living arrangements funded and licensed by the division. These arrangements are operated by either private agencies or by individuals under contract with DDD. Approximately 3,175 individuals live in one of seven developmental centers operated by the division.

The Central Office in Trenton oversees all division operations. All services to the division's consumers are coordinated through the Regional Assistant Director's Offices and Community Services Offices, which are listed at the end of this overview.

Eligibility Developmental disabilities begin during the developmental years, before age 22, and are lifelong conditions that affect a person's ability to live without some assistance. Developmental disabilities include: mental retardation, cerebral palsy, autism, epilepsy, spina bifida and neurological impairments that are most often due to traumatic brain injuries occurring during the developmental stages. Developmental disabilities substantially limit the individual in at least three of the following areas: self-care, learning, mobility, communication, self-direction, economic self-sufficiency and the ability to live independently.

How to apply To apply for services from DDD, an individual must contact the Community Services Office serving the county in which they live. The Intake Office guides applicants through the application process, makes eligibility and service recommendations, and provides information and referrals. Eligibility determinations are made through eight Community Services Offices.

Services The availability of services depends upon current resources and the types of available services vary in each county. A division case manager is assigned to each individual to assist in coordinating services and supports. In addition to case management, DDD provides guardianship services to protect an individual's rights and to ensure that care and treatment are appropriate. DDD also assists parents in becoming legal guardians of their adult children. Other services include: family support, residential services, day programs and supported employment services. Most of these services are provided through contracts with private organizations or individual contractors. Individuals who receive residential services may be required to contribute towards the cost from their disability benefits or other personal resources.



Real Life choices, the systems change blueprint announced in the fall of 2002, recognizes the need to better assist families caring for members with developmental disabilities at home. *Real Life choices* represents a system change that provides services and supports, while reassuring families that - should their needs change - the system will provide for those changing needs. *Real Life choices* is a multi-year plan which was launched in the fall of 2003, working with families to ensure that they have a personalized and responsive service plan.

DDD has four goals for implementing this systems change:

- ✓ Establishing equity in the distribution of resources and services
- ✓ Allowing for more Family and Individual decision-making
- ✓ Allocating comparable resources for comparable levels of need
- ✓ Developing individual budgets based on support needs

Also, DDD has partnered with The Family Support Center of New Jersey to offer a *Real Life choices* Resource Database through the Internet. This directory provides families with information about agencies that have been qualified through DDD to provide services and receive payment for those services. You can access the website by going to <http://www.fscnj.org> via the Internet. If you do not have a computer, then please check with your local library for opportunities to access the Internet.

Waiting lists There currently is a “Community Services Waiting List” for residential programs and a separate “Day Program Waiting List” for adult day or supported employment programs. Individuals are served in the order in which their names were added to the lists.

Community services DDD assists individuals in remaining at home as long as possible by providing support services to individuals and to their families, who are providing care. The division arranges for employment or skill training to support an individual in learning personal or job skills, obtaining a job or becoming involved in the local community. Through what is known as “person-centered planning,” an Individual Habilitation Plan (IHP) is developed. The plan takes into consideration an individual's needs, abilities and preferences. It is coordinated by an individual's case manager.

Family support Family Support is a system of services and supports for persons with developmental disabilities and their families. Services, available from DDD regional offices and/or contracted providers, include in-home and out-of-home respite, cash stipends, assistive devices and recreation. In 1993, New Jersey passed legislation underscoring the role of families in choosing the type of support needed and creating a network of Family Support Planning Councils to identify these needs.

Day programs Day Programs are shifting from self-contained programs to programs that offer greater community participation. DDD is committed to creating a network of supports and activities to meet a variety of needs:

Adult Training Services provide opportunities for people with developmental disabilities to explore personal interests, develop skills, participate in using community resources and make a contribution to their communities.

Extended Employment at Sheltered Workshops, operated by private agencies, are vocational programs that provide contract work such as packaging and assembling products, as well as job counseling and job referral.

Supported Employment Programs Include:

working with a job coach to assist the person with a developmental disability on the job. Support continues for as long as it is needed for the worker to remain employed.







working with a peer group of persons who need an increased level of support provided by additional staff and working as a member of a team.

volunteer work, which enables people with disabilities to gain work experience.

job sampling, which provides the opportunity for individuals with disabilities to try working in various jobs allowing them time to determine their personal preferences, strengths, needs and abilities.

Residential services

When it's no longer possible for someone to remain at home, DDD arranges a new home. Some living options include:

-  living with one to three roommates and receiving 24-hour, in-home support.
-  living in a family setting, with or without roommates, and receiving 24-hour, in-home assistance. If needed, specialized services such as behavior management or health care are available.
-  living with a roommate, but instead of on-site support, 24-hour help is available from staff living in the neighborhood.
-  custom designing and managing a living arrangement, usually by adding DDD funds to personal resources. Examples include renting a house or condo, acquiring a home, or co-owning a home with other families.
-  living without supervision, alone or with roommate, with the security of a 24-hour hotline and assistance on an as-needed basis.
-  buying a home, an option for individuals and/or families with sufficient resources, who qualify to buy a home through a program established by DDD and the state Housing and Mortgage Finance Agency



Developmental Centers

Residential arrangements are provided in seven state-operated developmental centers, which are institutional settings, where residents live and receive a comprehensive array of services. Each individual has a social worker and an Inter-Disciplinary Team (IDT) of staff to coordinate the appropriate services. Of the following developmental centers, Green Brook Regional Center is dedicated to geriatric care:

North Jersey Developmental Center, Totowa
 Hunterdon Developmental Center, Clinton
 Woodbridge Developmental Center
 Vineland Developmental Center

Green Brook Regional Center
 New Lisbon Developmental Center
 Woodbine Developmental Center

DDD Key Statistics

Budget

DDD FY 2004 Appropriation	\$1,091,162,000
State	\$ 654,889,000
Federal	\$ 397,414,000
Other	\$ 38,859,000

Community Services

Number of individuals living in:

Group Homes	3,817
Supervised Apartments	1,061
Supportive Living Programs	505
Skill Development Homes	1,546
Family Care Homes	26
Consumers receiving support services, living in their own home	21,328
Other (Nursing Homes, Boarding Homes, etc.)	1,977
<i>Waiting List:</i> People living at home waiting for Services	2,842



Developmental Centers

Number of Developmental Centers	7
Total number of Developmental Center residents	3,136

All DDD statistics are from January, 2004

Division of Developmental Disabilities Offices and Staff



James W. Smith, Jr., Director
(609) 292-7260

Carol Grant, Deputy Director
(609) 777-4079

Gregory Fenton, Assistant Director
Operations
(609) 984-5502

Central Office Capital Center, 50 East State Street, PO Box 726, Trenton, NJ 08625-0726

Northern/Upper Central Regions

Gregory Fenton, Acting Regional Assistant Director, 275 Green Brook Road, Green Brook, NJ 08812
(732) 968-4222

Northern - Community Services Offices, Shawn McInerney, Regional Administrator

Serving **Morris, Sussex and Warren Counties**
1B Laurel Dr., Flanders, NJ 07836
(973) 927-2600

Serving **Bergen, Hudson and Passaic Counties**
100 Hamilton Plaza, 7th Floor, Paterson, NJ 07505
(973) 977-4004

Upper Central - Community Services Offices, Patricia A. Fettweis, Regional Administrator

Serving **Union County & Somerset for Intake**
59 Main Street
West Orange, NJ 07052
(973) 324-2000

Serving **Somerset for Case Management**
275 Green Brook Road, 2nd Floor
Green Brook, NJ 08812
(732) 968-8100

Serving **Essex County**
153 Halsey St., 2nd Floor, PO Box 47013, Newark, NJ 07101
(973) 693-5080

Developmental Centers

North Jersey Developmental Center
Bruce Werkheiser, Chief Executive Officer
Box 169, Minisink Road
Totowa, NJ 07511
(973) 256-1700

Hunterdon Developmental Center
William A. Wall, Chief Executive Officer
PO Box 4003, 40 Pittstown Road
Clinton, NJ 08809-4003
(908) 735-4031

Green Brook Regional Center
(Vacant), Chief Executive Officer (Anthony Brudisi, on site manager)
275 Green Brook Rd., Green Brook, NJ 08812
(732) 968-6000

Lower Central/Southern Regions

Robert C. Lowe II, Regional Assistant Director
Capital Center, 50 East State Street, PO Box 726, Trenton, NJ 08625-0726
(609) 292-8305

Lower Central - Community Services Offices, Patricia M. Merk, Regional Administrator

Serving **Hunterdon, Mercer and Middlesex Counties**
222 So. Warren St., 2nd Floor, PO Box 700
Trenton, NJ 08625-0700
(609) 292-4500

Serving **Monmouth and Ocean Counties**
Juniper Plaza, Suite I-J
3499 Rt. 9 North, Freehold, NJ 07728
(732) 863-4500

Southern - Community Services Offices, Charlotte O'Neill, Regional Administrator

Serving **Burlington and Camden Counties**
101 Haddon Ave., Suite 17
Camden, NJ 08103-1485
(856) 614-3400

Serving **Atlantic, Cape May, Cumberland, Gloucester and Salem Counties**
40 North White Horse Pike
Hammonton, NJ 08037
(609) 561-5070

Developmental Centers

Woodbridge Developmental Center
John Dougherty, Chief Executive Officer
PO Box 189, 1277 Rahway Avenue
Woodbridge, NJ 07095
(732) 499-5500

New Lisbon Developmental Center
Jeffrey Schroeder, Chief Executive Officer
PO Box 130, Route 72
New Lisbon, NJ 08064
(609) 726-1000

Vineland Developmental Center
Eloise Hawkins, Chief Executive Officer
1676 East Landis Avenue, PO Box 1513
Vineland, NJ 08362-1513
(856) 696-6000

Woodbine Developmental Center
Robert Armstrong, Chief Executive Officer
DeHirsh Avenue
Woodbine, NJ 08270
(609) 861-2164

Bureau of Guardianship Services

Kimberly R. Friend, Bureau Chief
Division of Developmental Disabilities
Capital Center, 50 East State St.
PO Box 726, Trenton, NJ 08625-0726
(609) 292-0055

Mary Beth Seiler, Supervisor, Central Region
DDD Bureau of Guardianship Services
Capital Center, 50 East State St.
PO Box 726, Trenton, NJ 08625-0726
(609) 777-3566

Peggy Dervitz, Supervisor, Northern Region
DDD Bureau of Guardianship Services
153 Halsey St.
PO Box 47009, Newark, NJ 07102
(973) 648-4638

Brenda Fields, Supervisor, Southern Region
DDD Bureau of Guardianship Services
860 North Orchard Road
PO Box 1513
Vineland, NJ 08362-1513
(856) 690-5260



State of New Jersey

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Department of Human Services

James M. Davy, Commissioner

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